

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) A personal alarm system comprising:

a personal alarm signalling device adapted to be worn on a user's body comprising a user activatable transceiver for transmission of an alarm signal, and

a user activatable responder device adapted to contact outside help via a telephone network in response to the alarm signal, the responder device being provided locally in the vicinity of the user to thereby reduce power required for the alarm signalling device to contact the responder device,

the responder device being adapted to receive the alarm signal and to transmit a response signal to the transceiver after receipt of the alarm signal to inform the user of the receipt of the alarm signal,

the alarm signalling device comprising a user display for displaying the response signal to the user and an interface for receiving user data, the interface including a sound receiving member and a sound producing member to provide true two way instantaneous conversation via the alarm signalling device,

the transceiver being adapted to transmit the user data to the responder device after receipt of the response signal and to receive responder data from the responder device, the interface being adapted to provide the responder data to the user.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 35, wherein at least one of the user data and responder data include one of:

sound data, and
audio data.

38. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 37, wherein the interface comprises the user display.

39. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 37, wherein the user display is adapted to display the responder data.

40. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 35, wherein the user data comprise at least one of:
the user's voice, and
data relating to the user's physical condition.

41. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 35, wherein the transceiver comprises a signal channel selector for selecting a frequency or channel at which the transceiver transmits the alarm signal.

42. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 41, wherein the responder device comprises a responder channel selector for selecting the channel for receiving the alarm signal.

43. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 41, wherein the responder device is adapted to transmit a selection signal for controlling the signal channel selector, the transceiver being adapted to receive a selection signal from the responder device for controlling the signal channel selector.

44. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 43, wherein the responder device is adapted to control the signal channel selector in response to a reduced signal quality on the selected channel.

45. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 42, wherein the responder channel selector one of continuously and periodically transmits a channel monitoring signal for monitoring the quality of the transmissions channel or frequency.

46. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 35, wherein the user display comprises at least one of:

- a visual display member,
- an audible display member, and
- a tactile display member.

47. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 35, further comprising a range monitoring device for monitoring a range between the alarm signalling device and the responder device..

48. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 47, wherein the range monitoring device is adapted to activate the user display if the signalling device is out of the range of the responder device.

49. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 48, wherein the range monitoring device is activatable by the user.

50. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 35, wherein the transceiver is adapted to transmit an identification code to identify the alarm signalling device from multiple alarm signalling devices.

51. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 35, wherein the alarm signalling device is adapted to remotely operate devices including doors and appliances.

52. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 35, wherein the responder device is adapted to contact outside help including aid services.

53. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 52, wherein the responder device comprises an alarm signalling device for signalling an alarm including at least one of a visual alarm and an audible alarm.

54. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 53, wherein the alarm signalling device of the responder device comprises a telephone dialling device for contacting outside help including at least one of emergency services and telephone services.

55. (Currently Amended) An alarm system according to claim 54 35, wherein the responder device, in use, is connected to a telephone network.

56. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 35, wherein the responder device comprises a telephone answering

device for enabling the user to answer calls via the alarm signalling device.

57. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 50, wherein the system comprises at least one responder device and at least one alarm signalling device, the responder device signalling an alarm signal which corresponds to an identified signalling device.

58. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 57, further comprising an alarm procedure storage device for storing alarm procedures for each alarm signalling device, the alarm signalling device signalling an alarm in accordance with a stored alarm procedure for an identified alarm signalling device.

59. (Previously Presented) An alarm system according to claim 35, further comprising a locating device for locating the position of the alarm signalling device.

60. (Currently Amended) A method of receiving an alarm signal from a user with a personal alarm system including a personal alarm signalling device adapted to be worn on a user's body and having a user activatable transceiver for transmission of an alarm signal, and a user activatable responder device adapted to contact outside help via a telephone network in response to the

alarm signal, the responder device being provided locally in the vicinity of the user to thereby reduce power required for the alarm signalling device to contact the responder device, the responder device being adapted to receive the alarm signal and to transmit a response signal to the transceiver after receipt of the alarm signal, the alarm signalling device including a user display for displaying the response signal to the user and an interface for receiving user data, the transceiver being adapted to transmit the user data to the responder device after receipt of the response signal and to receive responder data from the responder device, the interface being adapted to provide the responder data to the user, the method comprising the steps of:

- activating the alarm signalling device,
- receiving the alarm signal by the responder device,
- transmitting a response signal by the responder device after receipt of the alarm signal,
- displaying the response signal to the user,
- transmitting the user data to the responder device by the personal alarm signalling device after receipt of the response signal and receiving responder data from the responder device, and
- providing the responder data to the user, and
- providing true two way instantaneous conversation via a sound receiving member and a sound producing member of the interface via the alarm signalling device.

61. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 60, further comprising the step of having the responder device contact outside help directly including aid services.

62. (Previously Presented) A method according to any of claim 60, wherein the user data comprises at least one of voice data and user health data.

63. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 60, further comprising the step of dialling emergency services by a dialling device of the responder device.

64. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 63, further comprising the step of continuously dialling by the dialling device until an emergency service is contacted.

65. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 60, further comprising the step of communicating by the user with the emergency services via the interface.

66. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 60, further comprising the steps of:

selecting the frequency or channel for transmitting the alarm signal by a signal channel selector of the transceiver,

selecting the channel for receiving the alarm signal by a responder channel selector the responder device,

controlling the signal channel selector by the responder device in response to at least one of reduced signal quality and interference on the selected channel, and

selecting a different channel if transmission quality is reduced.

67. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 66, further comprising the step of one of continuously and periodically transmitting a selection signal by the responder device to monitor the transmission quality of the transmission channel or transmission frequency.

68. (New) An alarm system according to claim 35, wherein the personal alarm signalling device includes an activation button, and wherein the personal alarm signalling device is activated only when the activation button is pressed to ensure that the personal alarm signalling device only begins to draw power once the personal alarm signalling device has been activated by the activation button.